Ifw

hereby certify that this correspondence is being mailed by first class mail with sufficient postage to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 2 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: April 3, 2006. What Moll, Registration No. 33,741 3 4 5 **U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE** 6 7 In re Application of: David Alan Burton et al. Examiner: Shahid Al Alam 8 Title: Data Replication in Data Storage Systems Art Unit: 2162 9 Application No. 10/696,327 Attorney Docket No. Pillar 715 10 Filing Date: October 28, 2003 11 12 PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT 13 14 **Commissioner for Patents** 15 P.O. Box 1450 16 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 17 18 Dear Examiner Alam: 19 20 Please enter the preliminary amendment before examination of the application as follows: 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30